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Panama: Full-scale U.S. Military Maneuvers

by Deborah Tyroler

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On Aug. 17, the US Southern Command conducted six hours of military maneuvers involving all 12,000 troops stationed in Panama to test combat readiness and defense systems in and around the Canal. No incidents were reported with the Panamanian Defense Forces (PDF). In the past three months, the US has carried out around 20 military exercises, resulting in a call by the Panamanian government on the UN to dispatch a peacekeeping force to ease tensions. (Basic data from AFP, 08/17/89)

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